

Golden Arrow Bus Services (Pty) Ltd

**Media Release
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GOLDEN ARROW BUS SERVICES AND BYD SIGN HISTORIC PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR 120 ELECTRIC BUSES

After four years of intensive testing, Golden Arrow Bus Services has taken a major step towards achieving its fleet electrification and renewable energy aims by confirming its first bulk order of 120 BYD buses.

Deliveries are scheduled to start late in 2024, with all the buses expected to be operational before December 2025. The buses ordered are BYD B12 buses with similar specifications to the bulk of the Golden Arrow fleet.

According to Golden Arrow Bus Services and Frontier Transport Holdings' Chief Executive Officer, Francois Meyer this order marks a turning point in the Company's future trajectory. "This bulk order confirms our commitment to renewable energy and will also provide us with the larger scale operational data to pave the way towards full fleet electrification," he says.

To get to this point in the electrification process, Company Engineer Gideon Neethling and his team have been hard at work to ensure that Golden Arrow is able to optimally implement large-scale fleet electrification. "We are intensively preparing our workforce and infrastructure to operate a system with complex requirements, and this will involve many exciting future partnerships," he says.

Golden Arrow's renewable energy journey

2017: The pilot installation of two solar plants of 25kWp each.

2020: Increased solar capacity of 2 000kWp, which resulted in carbon neutral electricity status for two Golden Arrow facilities.

2020: Golden Arrow partners with BYD (bus manufacturer) and uYilo (co-funding) to test two 100% electric buses for a 12-month period.

2021: Two BYD electric buses are officially introduced into service – a first for South Africa

2022: Purchase of third BYD bus, B12 65-seater Golden Arrow specification bus

2023: Fourth test bus introduced and approximately 200 000km of road testing completed.

2024: Golden Arrow orders 120 BYD electric buses for delivery from Q4 2024 to Q4 2025.

Issued by: Francois Meyer
Chief Executive Officer

Media Enquiries: Bronwen Dyke-Beyer
021 507 8801

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103 Bofors Circle Epping Industria
PO Box 1795 Cape Town 8000
Tel. 021 507 8800 email: information@gabs.co.za Website: <http://www.gabs.co.za>

